

PRECorp News

OCTOBER 2026

Youth Camp, Tour, scholarships available

As part of the cooperative “Commitment to Community”, Powder River Energy facilitates a variety of student scholarships to its members’ dependents. The following are capsules on other scholarships available through PRECorp, deadlines, and online application resources.

Youth Leadership Camp

PRECorp sponsors a week-long cooperative leadership experience for local high school students age 16 and up. The camp is held in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, July 10-15, 2027, with other students from Colorado, Kansas, and Oklahoma. All expenses are paid for students selected. The students’ parents/guardians must be PRECorp members. **The application deadline is January 18, 2027.**

Youth Tour

Local PRECorp juniors or seniors might also qualify to attend an all-expense paid Cooperative Youth Tour of Washington, DC, June 17-23, 2027, with 2,000 other students from across the United States. The students’ parents/guardians must be PRECorp members. **The application deadline is January 18, 2027.**

Basin Electric Scholarship - \$2,500

Applicants’ parents/guardians must be PRECorp members. One student from the PRECorp membership service territory may be chosen. Two others are nominated for consideration for the Members 1st selection. **The filing**

deadline for the Basin Electric Power Scholarship is February 1, 2027.

PRECorp Scholarship - \$2,000

Open to qualifying seniors and post-secondary students from 14 high schools and up to 5 college students in its service territory. Applicants’ parents/guardians must be active PRECorp members. **The deadline for filing the Powder River Energy Corporation Scholarship is March 1, 2027.**

PRECorp Lineman Scholarship

The PRECorp Lineman Scholarship is available to qualifying applicants who plan to attend an approved lineworker training program. Awards can be up to \$7,000. **The deadline for filing the PRECorp Lineman Scholarship is March 1, 2027.**

R.O.S.S. program

The Rising Opportunity Student Scholarship (R.O.S.S.) will award up to four \$2,000 R.O.S.S. scholarships for students entering tuition-based training, certification, and degree programs in 2026. The program is made possible by a fund established by Campbell County native Perry Ross. PRECorp membership is not required to apply and adult students are eligible.

The deadline for filing the R.O.S.S. application is March 31, 2027.

Go to precorp.coop/student-scholarships for complete details on deadlines, and online application resources



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BRIAN MILLS,
CEO

October is shipping season across much of our territory. Calves head to the sale barn, and the decisions that matter most get made... which heifers to keep back, what the herd ought to look like ten years down the road. Ranchers sell this year's crop with an eye on the next generation.

That long view is what I'd like to bring to a conversation you'll hear more about as the 2027 legislative session approaches: how Wyoming meets the power needs of large new industry.

A little history first. Certificated service territory was created at a time when there was no business sense in serving much of Wyoming... stringing miles of line to reach a handful of ranches did not pencil out for anyone. So territories were assigned, and cooperatives like PRECorp banded their members together to build what no one else would, investing not only in that day's needs but in the needs of generations to come. For more than 80 years, member-owners have financed that system, and it remains one of the most valuable assets we all own together.

Behind certificated territory are three commitments that were never meant to be pulled apart: serve everyone, serve them efficiently, and serve them economically. We're obligated to serve the subdivision in town and the ranch at the end of a twenty-mile line alike, and in return, nobody builds a second set of poles and wires down the same road. That's how the cost of an expensive system gets shared across all of us, and how we all harvest the value of economies of scale. While the state established the territory, we govern those commitments locally, in a cooperative model, with a member-elected board of directors.

What's driving today's debate is really two different situations. The headlines are about massive data centers, many planning their own generation. The quieter, more pressing

headlines: Is existing Wyoming industry looking to expand by a few dozen megawatts; and, Why is industry being told it may take years?

That frustration is real, and it deserves a fair hearing. The Wyoming Public Service Commission has adopted new rules, and legislative committees have drafted bills, all searching for a way to get these loads timely service and more autonomy without undermining the long-term investment members have made in their system.

Everyone in this debate agrees that whoever causes a cost should pay it, and PRECorp's history shows it can be done. We serve mines, pipelines, and other large loads, making sure each pays its own way while honoring the membership's investment. But the fact is, when new load connects to a system you've already built, fixed costs get spread across more use, which creates value for every member.

Yes, today's model carries some legacy structure and formality... some would call it rigidity. But it has integrity in terms of its insistence on long-term value for everyone. I'm not yet convinced that carving holes in certificated territory, whether through third-party generation or decertification, will ultimately create long-term value for everyone. Keeping all three tenets is the objective: everyone, efficiently, and economically.

I am optimistic that there is a reasonable path for new and growing industry that keeps all elements intact. The reality is that the electrical grid in the U.S. is complicated, with safety and reliability being preeminent. That admittedly creates some lengthy wait times, as federal and regional system studies and equipment backlogs complicate and frustrate projects. No state law can shorten those wait times.

You, as members, don't really buy kilowatts... you buy reliability, the confidence that when you flip the switch, the light comes on. Whatever direction Wyoming chooses, our job stays the same: safe, affordable, reliable power for every member-owner.

I'd encourage you to stay informed this winter and get to know your local legislators. Make sure they know your interests as they weigh the proposals in front of them. Growth and the people already here don't have to be at odds... the goal is simply the most long-term value for all the people of Wyoming.

Powder River, Let 'er Buck!

Join CEO Brian Mills for a telephone town hall meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 19. We will call members at 6:30 p.m. to join, or dial in toll-free to 888-886-6602. Hear the latest news from PRECorp and get answers to your questions!

Energy bill relief programs available

Do you anticipate problems making ends meet with your electric bill? Contact PRECorp to confidentially discuss options as soon as possible.

Our member service representatives can present options that may alleviate some financial stress. Call 1-800-442-3630 to start the conversation.

A primary option for those in need is the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP). This program is administered by the Wyoming Department of Family Services (DFS).

The purpose of the LIEAP program is to help low- and fixed-income families and individuals pay their heating bills during the winter months. Priority is given to households that include elderly (age 60+), disabled, and/or young children (age 5 and under).

Seasonal LIEAP benefits must be applied to a household's main heat source (the fuel your heat system uses to heat the home; not the power source needed to turn on the furnace). Additional assistance may be available through the

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) for repairs to inefficient or broken heating systems.

LIEAP is federally funded through a block grant administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Anyone applying for LIEAP is also applying for the WAP and will be considered for this one-time benefit to assist families and individuals with boosting energy efficiency in their homes to reduce home energy costs.

If an applicant needs assistance with utility deposits, propane tank sets, have received disconnect or shut-off notices, are out of propane, heating oil, wood, pellets, or coal, a request for special situation assistance can be made on the application.

Applications for seasonal heating benefits are accepted online only from October 1, 2026, through April 30, 2027. To complete the application through the secure member portal or for more information go to www.lieapwyo.org or call 1-800-246-4221.

Please note our office closures

Powder River Energy Corporation offices will be closed for these upcoming Holidays and events:

Veterans Day:
Wednesday, November 11

Thanksgiving:
Thursday and Friday,
November 26-27

Christmas:
Thursday and Friday,
December 24-25

New Year's Day:
Friday, January 1, 2027

All Employee Meeting:
Monday, January 18, 2027

To report an outage call 1-888-391-6220 or use the SmartHub app on your mobile device.

Have a medical necessity?



In an effort to better serve our members with special home health care needs, PRECorp is requesting information from our members who may have electricity-dependent residential medical equipment such as oxygen or dialysis machines.

Typically this information is gathered when members join the Cooperative and sign up for PRECorp electrical service.

However, if members have obtained the medical equipment since joining the Cooperative or have updated contact phone numbers, members are advised to share that information with PRECorp.

The purpose for knowing this information is to notify members with medical necessities of scheduled outages that might impact their service.

Members will need to provide a doctor's note for our files explaining the medical necessity.

For more information or to update your information, contact PRECorp Member Service at 1-800-442-3630.

Powder River Energy Corporation will make every effort to restore electrical service as soon as possible during an outage. There is no guarantee the power will be restored within a given time frame. Individuals are responsible to have an alternative plan if power cannot be restored before any condition becomes critical.



Foundation donates \$32.5k to local fire departments

The Powder River Energy (PRECorp) Foundation Board of Directors has given \$32,500 in direct support to three volunteer fire departments in Crook County.

- **The Carlile Volunteer Fire Department (VFD)** received \$10,000 toward the purchase of a brush firefighting truck and construction of a fire hall. Those funds were comprised of \$5,000 from the Foundation and another \$5,000 from Basin Electric Cooperative (Basin).
- **The Moorcroft VFD** was awarded \$10,000 for the purchase of hand-held emergency radios.
- **The Sundance VFD** received \$10,000 toward the purchase of updated bunker gear for new personnel. In addition, Basin added another \$2,500 to cover Sundance VFD needs.

The departments and their many volunteers respond to fire and traffic emergencies in the towns of Moorcroft and Sundance, as well as covering rural wildfires in the county.

"The Foundation Board remarked that this donation is vital for the residents and visitors to this area of northeast Wyoming, so they have all of the fire and emergency services available to them when needed," said Foundation Executive Director Joe Roth. "The wildfire season of 2026 is a prime example of how an emergency can quickly erupt. The local volunteer fire departments have a variety of needs, and the Foundation is proud to meet those needs so these heroes have the essential equipment when it is time to respond."



PRECorp photos

Members of the Carlile VFD gather in front of their new truck with Foundation representative Tim Velder, Jennifer Cranston, Bill Dewey, Foundation Director Mary Yemington, Joey Kanode, Dan Zimmerschied, Rick Hapstonstall, and Ivan Cranston.



Moorcroft VFD Chief Jeff Holberg and Assistant Chief Justin Thomas gather with Foundation representative Tim Velder in reception of their \$10,000 grant for new emergency communications radios.



Sundance VFD members gather to accept a \$12,500 donation from the PRECorp Foundation. From left, Thomas Engelhaupt, Tony Williamson, Curtis "Mac" Williamson, Dallas Johnson, Curt Williamson, Ray Blaise, Chris Tomford, Devin Lee, and Foundation staff Linda Tokarczyk.